

Urges Tighter Local Dry Laws

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Shields Advises Detroit

Conference to Agitate Among Masses

DETROIT (U. P.)—Prohibition can be enforced by making the agitation one in which the masses aid, the Anti-Saloon League was advised today on the tenth anniversary of American prohibition.

James K. Shields, superintendent of the New Jersey League, told the convention that a nationwide drive should be made to pass municipal and village prohibition laws.

"For ten years," he said, "we have been attempting to enforce the law by a method which begins at the top of the pyramid and works toward the base. The great masses of the people, instead of operating themselves to enforce the law, have been operated upon."

"Power comes from the many, and from the standpoint of numbers alone the weakness of the present system is apparent. The local police, whose beats cover our cities and villages like a network, feel but slightly, if at all, any responsibility for the enforcement of prohibition. The federal courts and officials have been left practically alone to bear the burden of enforcement. Under such conditions the success of prohibition has been little short of marvelous."

Prompt Penalties.

"Let each city and village pass an ordinance prohibiting the manufacture, sale and transportation of liquor, with prompt penalties. More will thus be accomplished in one year to make the 'noble experiment' a success than all the investigating commissions of Congress can do in ten," Shields said.

He urged formation of dry organizations of "law enforcement leagues" in every city and village of the country, to demand that legislative bodies pass prohibition ordinances. The police courts, he explained, would be expected to handle only the cases of smaller violations.

"It is the little speakeasies, blind pigs and bootleggers that are doing more to break the morale of the prohibition movement than anything else."

Jonathan B. Hawk, associate editor

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Senate Asked By Blaine to Repeal Dry Law

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and the Christian religion had to be made.

Cooper asserted it seemed "incredible even to those who have long marked the daring and unscrupulousness of the liquor interests, that any man should stand on the floor of the House and make a comparison between the divine Christ, the rum runner and the bootlegger."

"To suggest a parallel between these," he added, "is so sacrilegious that one's mind recoils at the mere suggestion."

Basis for Argument.

WASHINGTON (U. P.)—Representative LaGuardia (Rep., N. Y.) in his resolution to declare the Eighteenth Amendment void bases his argument on Section 3 of the Eighteenth Amendment:

"The article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the Legislatures of the several states, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by Congress."

LaGuardia contends the document was not actually a constitutional amendment until three-fourths of the states ratified both the "resolution" and the amendment itself within seven years. Only ten states ratified both propositions. For this reason LaGuardia's resolution declares:

"Resolved, that the said Eighteenth Amendment is now by its own terms inoperative and that all laws for the enforcement of provisions of such amendment are null and void."

Drys Unconcerned.

This legal challenge received sparse attention from the constitutional drys who were more interested in a hidden provision they have discovered in the Williamson bill which may deprive Secretary of Treasury Mellon of most of his power over alcohol permit releases.

Many of the drys have been after Mellon and they have withheld approval of the measure to leave the alcohol permit division in the treasury while transferring all the rest of the prohibition unit to the justice department.

A provision has been written into the bill, however, designed to encourage their support of the measure. It states the treasury can approve permits only after ten days have elapsed, during which time copies of the application must be submitted to the Attorney General. If the Attorney General objects to any permit, the treasury may not grant it.